

Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program Accomplishments

In November 1992 the Massachusetts voters passed a ballot referendum to raise the tax on tobacco products and in 1993 the Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program was established with a portion of the funds raised through this referendum. With an average budget of \$31 million dollars annually through FY02, the MTCP had provided services -- including smoking cessation counseling, school-based education programs, paid media, tobacco product regulations and the like -- to the communities of Massachusetts. In Fiscal Year 2003 the budget was cut to \$5.5 million or \$0.95 per citizen. MTCP's goals remain preventing young people from starting to use tobacco and reducing their access to tobacco, helping adult smokers stop smoking, and protecting non-smokers by reducing their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

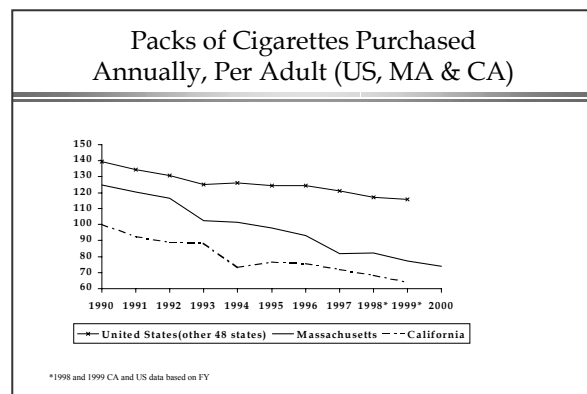
What is the extent of the Smoking Problem in Massachusetts?

- Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in Massachusetts accounting for close to 9,300 deaths.
- Smokers lose over 118,000 years of potential life annually.
- The health care costs of caring for people with smoking related illnesses surpasses \$2.7 billion dollars a year.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, "when the excise taxes support effective community media and school programs to prevent tobacco use, decreases in consumption will continue" despite fluctuations in cigarette prices. The CDC evaluated the Massachusetts and California anti-tobacco initiatives in 1996 and found them highly effective.

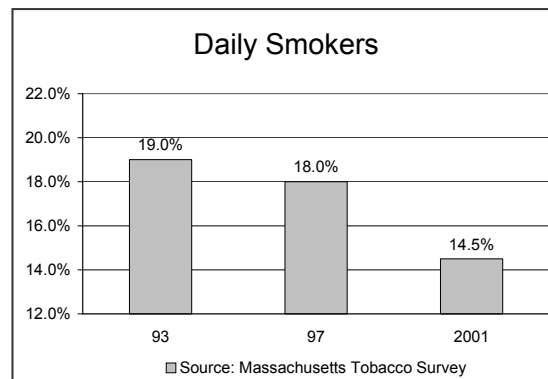
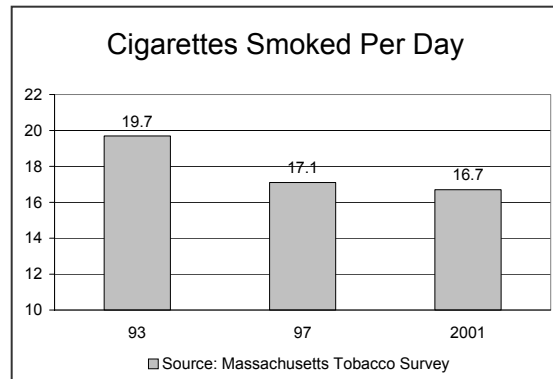
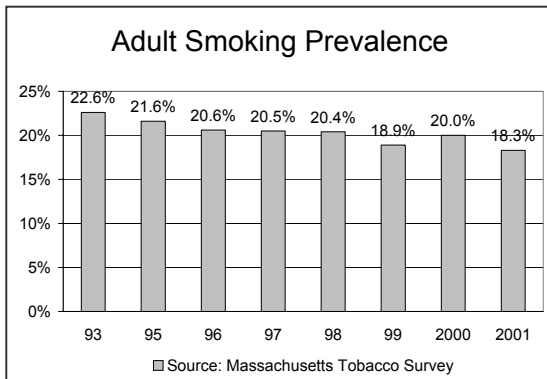
Massachusetts Adults are Smoking Less

Massachusetts per capita cigarette consumption (age 18+) has fallen 41% from 117 packs in 1992 to 69 packs in 2002.¹ This decrease is two and one-half times the rate observed for the rest of the nation.²



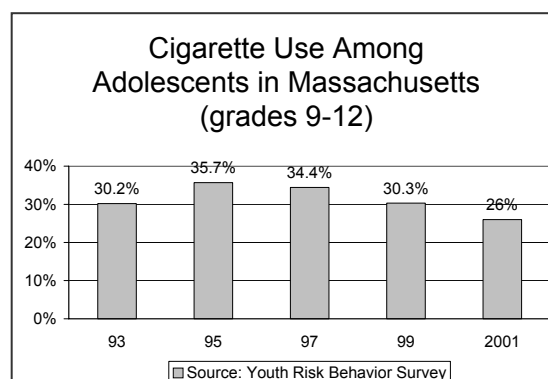
Adult Prevalence

The prevalence of current adult smokers (18.3.0%) in 2001 decreased from 20.0% in 2000, and remained below the base rate of 22.6% in 1993.³ The average number of cigarettes smoked per day fell from 19.7 in 1993 to 16.7 in 2001. Similarly, the daily smoking rates of adults in Massachusetts continued to decline, falling from 19% in 1993 to 14.5% in 2001.



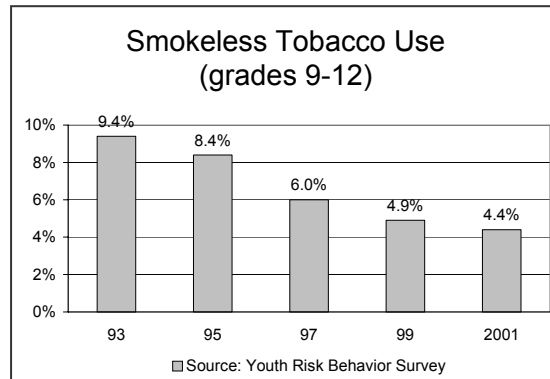
Massachusetts Youth Smoking Has Fallen

Current cigarette smoking (30 days prior to survey) among adolescents in Massachusetts has decreased significantly from 35.7% in 1995 to 26.0% in 2001.⁴ This change represents a 27% decline in the smoking rate among adolescents in the past six years.



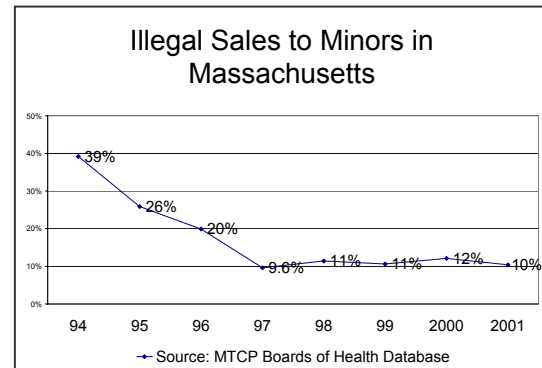
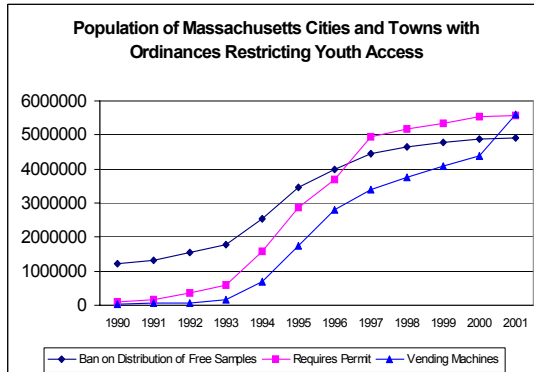
Youth Smokeless Tobacco Use

There has been a steady and significant decline in adolescent smokeless tobacco use from 1993 (9.4%) to 1997 (6.0%) to 2001 (4.4%). This decline represents over a 53% decline in the use of smokeless tobacco among adolescents. Massachusetts excise taxes have brought the tax to 75% of the wholesale price by 1996, accounting for much of the decline.⁵



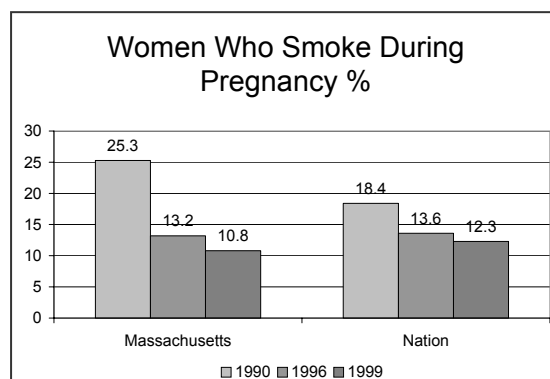
Youth Access to Tobacco

From 1993 through 2001, Massachusetts cities and towns, with a combined population in excess of 5.5 million, adopted provisions requiring permits for tobacco retailers.⁶ Illegal sales to minors have fallen from 39% in 1994 to just 10% in 2001⁷

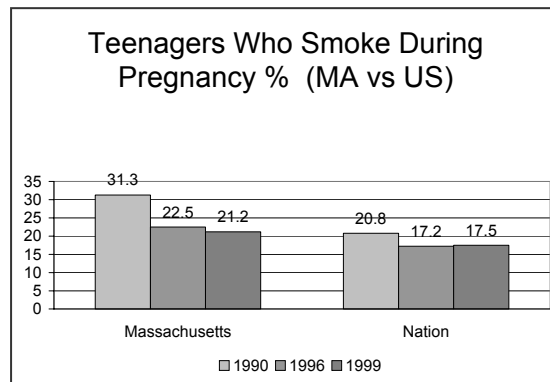


Smoking during Pregnancy

Massachusetts leads all states in the decline of women who smoke during pregnancy. In Massachusetts, the number of women who smoked during pregnancy declined 58% from 1990 (25.3%) to 1999 (10.8%).⁸

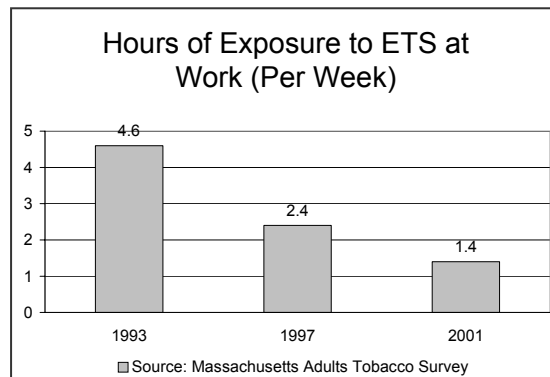


The percent of Massachusetts women aged 15-19 years who smoked during pregnancy declined 32% from 31.3% in 1990 to 21.2% in 1999.⁸ This decline is double the national rate for the same period of time.

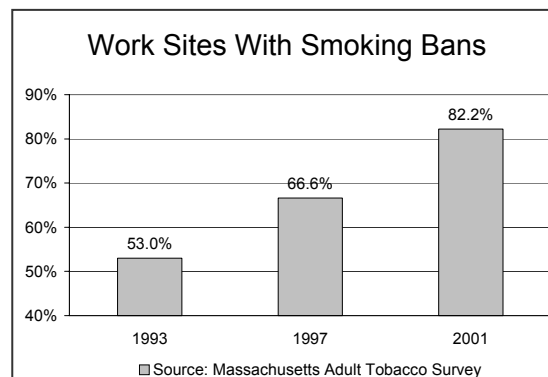


Protecting Non Smokers

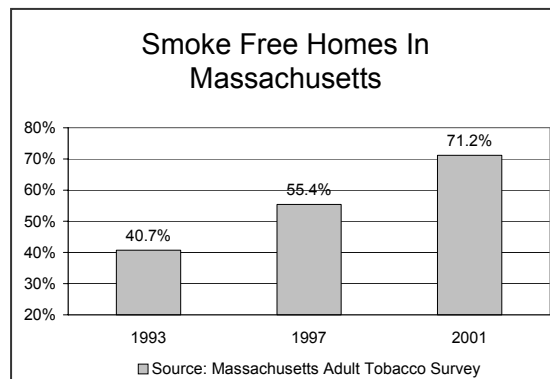
Massachusetts adults report a decrease in exposure to secondhand smoke in the workplace from an average of 4.6 hours per day in 1993 to 1.4 hours per day in 2001.⁹



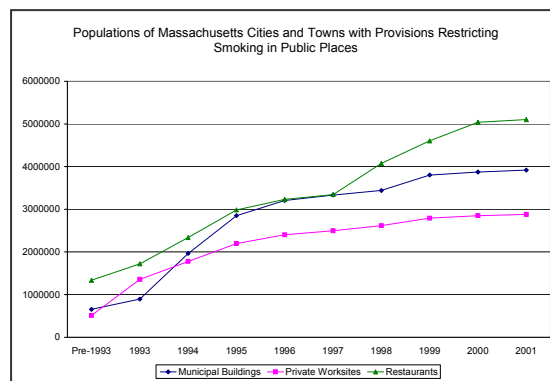
The percent of private worksites in Massachusetts with an indoor smoking ban has increased from 53% in 1993 to 82.2% in 2001.¹⁰



The proportion of Massachusetts adults who live in smoke-free households has increased from 40.7% in 1993 to 71.2% in 2001.¹¹



The number of Massachusetts residents protected by tobacco control ordinances has grown since Question 1 was passed in 1992. The population of cities and towns with each type of provision (ETS and Youth Access) has more than quadrupled over that period. Smoking provisions now cover more than two-thirds of all residents of the Commonwealth.¹²



Policy Achievements:

- First state to require warnings on smokeless tobacco products resulting in a federal law (1985);
- Additional \$66 million revenue to the state from increased cigarette tax (\$1.51) in 2002;
- Fifth state to sue for smoking related Medicaid costs (1994);
- First state to legislatively divest state pension funds from tobacco stock (1995);
- Second state to require cigar warnings resulting in a national cigar label (1999);
- First state to require disclosure of cigarette additives and a more accurate method for reporting nicotine yield (1996).

Sources:

¹ Tobacco Institute Monthly State Cigarette Tax Reports through June 1998, Massachusetts Department of Revenue Tax Stamp data through December 2002

² Tobacco Institute Monthly State Cigarette Tax Reports through June 1998, Massachusetts Department of Revenue Tax Stamp data from December 2002

³Massachusetts Adult Tobacco Survey, 2001

⁴Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001

⁵Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001

⁶Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program ordinance database

⁷ MTCP Boards of Health Database

⁸National Vital Statistics Reports, CDC, Volume 49, Number 7, August 28, 2001

⁹Massachusetts Adult Tobacco Survey, 2001

¹⁰Massachusetts Adult Tobacco Survey, 2001

¹¹Massachusetts Adult Tobacco Survey, 2001

¹² Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program ordinance database
